

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method comprising:
determining a first real-time, cost-per-unit-time billing rate for an in-progress telephone call of a wireless telephone; and
displaying the first real-time, cost-per-unit-time billing rate on a display of the wireless telephone during the in-progress telephone call.
2. The method of claim 1 further comprising, after said displaying the first real-time, cost-per-unit time billing rate:
determining a second real-time, cost-per-unit-time billing rate for the in-progress telephone call of the wireless telephone; and
displaying the second real-time, cost-per-unit-time billing rate on the display of the wireless telephone during the in-progress telephone call.
3. The method of claim 2 wherein the second real-time, cost-per-unit-time billing rate differs from the first real-time, cost-per-unit-time billing rate.
4. The method of claim 1 wherein the first real-time, cost-per-unit-time billing rate comprises a cost-per-minute rate.
5. The method of claim 1 further comprising:
determining a first rate description associated with the first real-time, cost-per-unit-time billing rate; and
displaying the first rate description on the display of the wireless telephone during the in-progress telephone call.
6. The method of claim 5 wherein the first rate description and the first real-time, cost-per-unit-time billing rate are simultaneously displayed by the display of the wireless telephone.

7. The method of claim 1 wherein said determining is performed by a node remote to the wireless telephone, the method further comprising:
sending data indicating the first real-time, cost-per-unit-time billing rate from the node to the wireless telephone during the in-progress telephone call.
8. The method of claim 1 further comprising:
displaying a number of days remaining in a billing period on the display.
9. A wireless telephone comprising:
a display to display, during an in-progress telephone call, a first real-time, cost-per-unit-time billing rate for the in-progress telephone call.
10. The wireless telephone of claim 9 wherein the display is to display, after displaying the first real-time, cost-per-unit time billing rate but during the in-progress telephone call, a second real-time, cost-per-unit-time billing rate for the in-progress telephone call.
11. The wireless telephone of claim 10 wherein the second real-time, cost-per-unit-time billing rate differs from the first real-time, cost-per-unit-time billing rate.
12. The wireless telephone of claim 9 wherein the first real-time, cost-per-unit-time billing rate comprises a cost-per-minute rate.
13. The wireless telephone of claim 9 wherein the display is further to display a first rate description associated with the first real-time, cost-per-unit-time billing rate on the display of the wireless telephone during the in-progress telephone call.
14. The wireless telephone of claim 13 wherein the display is to simultaneously display the first rate description and the first real-time, cost-per-unit-time billing rate.

15. The wireless telephone of claim 9 further comprising:
a receiver to receive data indicating the first real-time, cost-per-unit-time billing rate from a remote node.
16. The wireless telephone of claim 9 wherein the display is further to display a number of days remaining in a billing period.
17. A system comprising:
a message generator to determine a first real-time, cost-per-unit-time billing rate for an in-progress telephone call of a wireless telephone, and to generate a first message having data which indicates the first real-time, cost-per-unit-time billing rate to the wireless telephone during the in-progress telephone call.
18. The system of claim 17 wherein after generating the first message, the message generator is to determine a second real-time, cost-per-unit-time billing rate for the in-progress telephone call of the wireless telephone, and to generate a second message having data which indicates the second real-time, cost-per-unit-time billing rate to the wireless telephone during the in-progress telephone call.
19. The system of claim 18 wherein the second real-time, cost-per-unit-time billing rate differs from the first real-time, cost-per-unit-time billing rate.
20. The system of claim 17 wherein the first real-time, cost-per-unit-time billing rate comprises a cost-per-minute rate.
21. The system of claim 17 wherein the message generator is to determine a first rate description associated with the first real-time, cost-per-unit-time billing rate, and wherein the data in the first message indicates the first rate description.

22. The system of claim 17 wherein the message generator is to generate a message indicating a number of days remaining in a billing period.